

WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH
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12 MAR 1959

**PONTARDAWE RURAL
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

§

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR

WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH
BRARY

§

FOR THE YEAR

1957

**PONTARDAWE RURAL
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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FOR THE YEAR

1957

Pontardawe Rural District Council

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1957

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Pontardawe Rural District Council,**

Gentlemen,

I herewith submit the Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1957. The Report is compiled in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health as given in Circular 1/58 (Wales).

The vital statistics for the year 1957 shown in this report continue to fall within normal limits and are those which would be expected in a semi-industrial area on the western side of Britain. There was no serious outbreak of infectious illness during the year under review and for the second successive year no case of poliomyelitis was notified. The local inoculation programme against poliomyelitis which was commenced by the local health authority last year continued throughout the current year albeit subject to delays due to irregularity of vaccine supplies. Tuberculosis continues to follow the national trends of a low death rate accompanied by a not so low rate of infection of new cases. However, because of modern advances in chemotherapy and antibiotics, and also because of greatly improved operative technique the outlook for these patients so notified has become very much brighter, their stay in hospital, if any, is much shorter and their return to work is greatly hastened. This Authority also plays some part in the struggle against tuberculosis by its system of allocating houses to alleviate overcrowding and other bad conditions in households where the disease is present.

1957 has been a year of re-imposed restrictions so far as Council house building is concerned. Last year (1956) 155 families were rehoused either in new houses or in casual vacancies and it seemed as if the severe housing problem present here since the end of the war was at last being mastered. During 1957, however, these re-imposed restrictions resulted in only 86 families being rehoused and there are indications that the waiting list will increase again.

A number of provisions under the new Clean Air Act came into operation the beginning of the year and it is to be hoped that eventually owing to the provisions of this Act and perhaps also to an awakening of public conscience, we shall again enjoy the privilege of breathing really clean air. It is over a century since the air of industrial and semi-industrial areas could have been regarded as pure. In the Swansea Valley the average atmospheric pollution is comparatively low. This is because of prevailing south west winds and heavy rainfall but during periods of still dry weather in the summer or misty and windless weather in the winter the atmosphere here often becomes really filthy.

With an ageing population fresh problems arise. One of these which can cause great distress to old people and great difficulties in public health administration is the need for urgent admission to hospital of chronic aged sick patients who through various causes suddenly become acutely ill. Then they are no longer eligible for hostel accommodation and chronic sick beds provided in the area are usually full. Such patients are usually too ill to take their turn through a long waiting list and because they are also chronic sick difficulty may be found in admitting them to ordinary acute hospital beds.

Lastly, during 1957 the area of Pontardawe Rural District experienced its usual heavy rainfall, the annual amount measured at Ystalyfera was over 72 inches. Once again the summer was the wettest season, more than 24 inches of the rainfall fell during the months of July, August and September.

It is desired to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their co-operation and interest in the work of the Department and the Staff of the Public Health Department who have at all times carried out their duties in a satisfactory manner.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. M. DAVIES

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Chairman of the Public Health Committee :
Councillor Wyndham Rees

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. G. M. Davies, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector :

Ieuan Lewis, M.B.E., F.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.I. (Meat & Other Foods)

Additional Public Health Inspectors :

G. A. Rees, M.A.P.H.I.

D. J. Davies, M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.I. (Meat & Other Foods)

H. Wynne Jones, M.A.P.H.I., C.I.Hsg., C.R.S.I., (Meat & Other Foods)

Administrative and Clerical :

Senior Assistant : John Rogers

Mary E. Davies, Rufus Thomas, Gaynor Walters

Elwyn Lewis (Part Year), Banks P. Rees (Part Year)

SECTION A—STATISTICS

Area as given on Ordnance Maps	...	...	...	34,969 acres
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1957	...	...	...	£241,380
Registrar-General's Estimate of Population	...	...	...	31,880
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£869
Live Birth Rate per Registrar-General's				
Live Birth Figures	...	...	13.64	per 1,000 population
Live Birth Rate after adjustment by Registrar-General's				
Comparability Factor	...	...	13.78	per 1,000 population
Still Birth Rate per Registrar-General's				
Still Birth Figures	...	...	22.47	per 1,000 live and still births
Crude Death Rate	...	...	13.27	per 1,000 population
Death Rate after adjustment by Registrar-General's				
Comparability Factor	...	...	14.46	per 1,000 population
Deaths from Maternal Causes	...		There were none registered during the year	
Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age :—				
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	27.59
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate births	...	...	...	28.24
No deaths were registered of illegitimate infants under the age of one year.				
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	67
Deaths from Measles	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1
Deaths from Gastro-Enteritis (under 2 years)	...	...	...	1

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR, 1957

PART I OF THE ACT

1—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors) :

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	14	16	—	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	112	74	3	—	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	—	—	—	—	3
TOTAL		126	90	3	—	

2—Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	M/c line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	M/c line No.
		Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(8)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	17	17	—	1	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—						
(a) Insufficient	9	—	—	—	—	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	6	6	—	3	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	—	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	—	—	—	—	12
TOTAL	60	23	23	—	4	60

Part VIII of the Act. OUTWORK. (Sections 110 and 111).

There were no outworkers employed.

Report under Factories Act, 1937 and 1948.

In accordance with the requirements of the Act, supervision of all factories was carried out. As indicated in the foregoing table all defects found were remedied without the institution of proceedings.

VITAL STATISTICS DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR, 1957, CLASSIFIED BY AGES, CAUSES AND LOCALITIES

Code	Causes of Death	Sex	Total	AGE GROUPS								PARISH OR WARD								
				Under 1 year	1-4 years	5-14 years	15-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65-74 years	Over 75 years	Clydach	Gellionen	Mawr	Ynys-y-mond	Cillybebyll	Blancgael & Mawr	Godrefraig	Alltygrug	Cwmlllyn-fell
1	Respiratory Tuberculosis	{M F}	5	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3
2	Other Tuberculosis	{M F}	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
3	Syphilitic Disease	{M F}	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	{M F}	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
6	Meningococcal Infections	{M F}	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
9	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	{M F}	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	{M F}	6	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	1
11	Malignant Neoplasm—Lung, Bronchus	{M F}	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	1
12	Malignant Neoplasm—Breast	{M F}	10	—	—	—	—	—	3	6	1	3	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	2
13	Malignant Neoplasm—Uterus	{M F}	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	{M F}	25	—	—	—	—	—	1	11	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	3
15	Leukaemia	{M F}	13	—	—	1	—	—	3	5	4	3	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	5
16	Diabetes	{M F}	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17	Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	{M F}	26	1	—	—	—	—	2	9	9	4	2	1	5	5	2	4	—	2

18	Coronary Disease, Angina	{M	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	25	13	11	8	—	4	3	3	10	1	13	2	6
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	{F	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	8	7	1	—	1	—	1	5	1	4	—	3
20	Other Heart Disease	{M	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	
21	Other Circulatory Disease	{F	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	11	8	1	2	1	6	4	1	2	1	
22	Influenza	{M	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	10	17	7	5	1	—	—	4	2	3	—	
23	Pneumonia	{F	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	6	4	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	
24	Bronchitis	{M	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	9	7	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	
25	Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	{F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	{M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	16	2	7	1	2	—	1	8	3	—	—	
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	{F	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	7	—	2	1	—	—	5	1	—	—	
29	Hyperplasia of the Prostate	{M	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	5	2	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	
31	Congenital Malformations	{F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
32	Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	{M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	6	3	1	—	1	1	3	2	1	1	
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents	{F	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	3	10	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	8	1	
34	All Other Accidents	{M	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
35	Suicide	{F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	2	—	1	—	2	1	1	2	2	
		{M	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		{F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		{M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		{F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
	TOTALS	{M	249	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	77	80	72	50	8	14	7	16	49	15	44	10	36
		{F	174	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	35	54	73	32	14	10	1	17	34	8	26	7	25
			423	12	—	—	—	—	—	2	112	134	145	82	22	24	8	33	83	23	70	17	61

GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY)—VITAL STATISTICS, 1957

	Estimated Population 1957	BIRTHS		DEATHS		INFANT MORTALITY		NEO NATAL MORTALITY	
		Number of Births	Rate per 1,000 Population Crude Adjusted	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Population Crude Adjusted	Deaths under 1 Year	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Deaths under 4 weeks	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
England and Wales		722,952	16.10 —	514,946	11.5 —	16,641	23.00	11,904	16.5
Administrative County	740,600	12,081	16.31	9,085	12.27	380	31.45	263	21.77
Urban Districts	535,500	8,826	16.48	6,582	12.29	290	32.36	202	22.89
Rural Districts	205,100	3,255	15.87	2,503	12.20	90	27.65	61	18.74
<i>Health Division. Constituent Districts</i>									
Aberdare and Urban	40,100	611	15.24	581	14.49	23	37.64	18	29.46
Mountain Ash	30,590	520	17.00	411	13.44	23	44.23	15	28.85
Mountain Ash Urban									
Caerphilly and Urban	37,330	666	17.84	352	9.43	21	31.53	15	22.52
Gelligaer	36,260	667	18.39	405	11.17	22	32.98	14	20.99
Gelligaer Urban									
Mid-Glamorgan Bridgend Urban	14,810	278	18.77	173	11.68	13	46.76	8	28.78
Maesteg Urban	22,640	365	16.12	271	11.97	11	30.14	10	27.40
Ogmore & Urban	22,180	339	15.28	256	11.54	10	29.50	4	11.80
Garw Urban									
Porthcawl Urban	10,310	130	12.61	140	13.58	6	46.15	5	38.46
Penybont Rural	35,660	596	16.71	524	14.69	19	31.88	11	18.46

Neath and District	Neath M.B.	31,170	435	13.96	12.98	379	12.16	13.74	13	29.89	7	16.09
	Neath Rural	41,370	607	14.67	14.38	426	10.30	13.08	15	24.71	13	21.42
Pontypridd and Llantrisant	Rural	25,780	467	18.11	17.39	262	10.16	13.00	14	29.98	10	21.41
	Pontypridd Urban	37,590	585	15.56	14.94	527	14.02	15.28	17	29.06	11	18.80
Port Talbot and Glyncoirwrg	Urban	9,750	212	21.74	21.31	107	10.97	15.69	6	28.30	5	23.58
	Port Talbot M.B.	47,780	899	18.82	18.26	505	10.57	13.64	35	38.93	22	24.47
South East Glamorgan	Barry M.B.	42,020	765	18.21	17.48	464	11.04	12.14	28	36.60	20	26.14
	Cardiff Rural	39,180	593	15.14	16.20	561	14.32	11.74	14	23.61	10	16.86
	Cowbridge M.B.	1,010	11	10.89	11.33	11	10.89	11.33	—	—	—	—
	Cowbridge Rural	19,310	360	18.64	20.69	148	7.66	13.33	8	22.22	6	16.67
	Penarth Urban	19,200	321	16.72	16.55	232	12.08	11.11	11	34.27	9	28.04
West Glamorgan	Gower Rural	11,920	197	16.53	17.36	159	13.34	12.14	8	40.61	5	25.38
	Llwchwr Urban	25,860	348	13.46	13.73	289	11.18	13.08	6	17.24	5	14.37
	Pontardawe Rural	31,880	435	13.64	13.78	423	13.27	14.46	12	27.59	6	13.79
Rhondda	Rhondda M. B.	106,900	1,674	15.66	15.35	1,479	13.84	16.05	45	26.88	34	20.31

Public Health Department,
County Hall,
Cardiff.

INFANTILE MORTALITY. Net Deaths At Various Ages Under One Year.

Causes of Death	Sex	Under 24 hours	Under 1 week & over 24 hours	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under one month	1 Month & under 3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total under one year	PARISH OR WARD							
													Clydach	Craigcelfinpare	Ynysymond	Cilybebyll	Blancgel & Mawr	Godrefgrraig	Cae gurwen	
Prematurity	{M	2	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Gastro-enteritis	{F	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Broncho-pneumonia	{M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital transposition of the Aorta and Pulmonary Trunk	{F	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	{M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Congenital Heart Disease	{F	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Meningitis	{M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hydrops Foetalis and imperforate anus	{F	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Birth Trauma	{M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	{M	3	2	—	—	—	5	2	1	—	—	8	2	1	1	—	1	2	1	1
	{F	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	1	4	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
		3	2	—	1	—	6	3	2	—	1	12	3	1	1	1	2	2	—	2

BIRTHS AND DEATHS, 1957

Births

Live Births				Still Births			
	M.	F.	Total		M.	F.	Total
Total	220	215	435	Total	4	6	10
Legitimate	212	213	425	Legitimate	4	6	10
Illegitimate	8	2	10	Illegitimate	—	—	—

Deaths

Deaths of Infants under 1 Year of Age				Deaths of Infants under 4 Weeks of Age			
	M.	F.	Total		M.	F.	Total
Total	8	4	12	Total	5	1	6
Legitimate	8	4	12	Legitimate	5	1	6
Illegitimate	—	—	—	Illegitimate	—	—	—

STATISTICAL TABLE—COMPARISON OF POPULATION

BIRTHS AND DEATHS, 1938—1957

Year	Registrar General's Estimate of Population	Live Births		Deaths	
		Total	Rate per 1,000 Population	Total	Rate per 1,000 Population
1938	33,940	436	12.8	412	12.11
1939	33,780	420	12.4	418	12.3
1940	33,220	484	13.8	420	12.6
1941	34,330	552	14.6	407	11.9
1942	32,510	583	16.8	399	12.3
1943	31,550	570	17.6	406	12.8
1944	32,250	571	17.7	411	12.7
1945	32,520	515	15.8	399	12.3
1946	33,160	576	17.4	408	12.3
1947	33,110	557	16.8	426	12.9
1948	32,760	539	16.5	386	11.8
1949	32,780	472	14.4	432	13.2
1950	32,650	456	13.97	462	14.15
1951	32,340	428	13.23	458	14.16
1952	32,110	468	14.57	427	13.30
1953	32,170	448	13.93	425	13.21
1954	32,190	459	14.26	430	13.36
1955	32,170	432	13.43	473	14.70
1956	32,050	439	13.97	477	16.07
1957	31,880	435	13.78	423	14.46

BIRTHS AND DEATHS 1946—1957

Year	Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population (Adjusted)	Death Rate under One Year per 1,000 Live Births	Death Rate per 1,000 Population (Adjusted)
1946	17.4	52.0	12.3
1947	16.8	45.0	12.9
1948	16.5	37.1	11.8
1949	14.4	51.0	13.2
1950	13.97	35.09	14.15
1951	13.23	30.37	14.16
1952	14.57	32.05	13.30
1953	13.93	49.11	13.21
1954	14.26	39.22	13.36
1955	13.43	20.83	14.70
1956	13.97	27.33	16.07
1957	13.78	27.59	14.46

DEATHS FROM VIOLENCE, 1957

Cause	Sex		PARISH OR WARD							
	M	F	Clydach	Garnswllt Velindre	Cilybebyll	Blaenegel & Mawr	Godre 'rgraig	Alltygrug	Cae-gurwen	
Fall at Home	1	3	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	
Industrial Accident	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Asphyxia— Coal gas poisoning	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Barbiturate poisoning	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Misadventure— Fractured skull	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	
Accident— Crushed fracture of head	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
TOTALS	6	4	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	

SUICIDE, 1957

Cause	Sex		PARISH OR WARD	
	M	F	Blaenegel & Mawr	Alltygrug
Asphyxia by hanging	2	1	1	2

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS, 1957

Cause	Sex		PARISH OR WARD
	M	F	Clydach
Motorcycle driver crashing into a stationary van	1	—	1

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE DISTRICT.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

Full use has been made during the year of the new laboratory established at Cockett, Swansea. All samples for bacteriological examination were dealt with at Swansea, samples for chemical analysis including those in connection with air pollution being taken to the County Laboratory at Cardiff as in the past.

Numbers of samples taken are as follows :—

WATER :

Bacteriological Examination	89
Chemical Analysis	42

MILK :

Bacteriological Examination	14
------------------------------------	----

ICECREAM :

Bacteriological Examination	3
Chemical Analysis	Nil

SEWAGE :

Effluent Analysis	4
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(b) Welfare Services, Hospital and Ambulance Services.

Welfare and Ambulance Services within the area are still maintained by the Glamorgan County Council, and the Ambulance sub-station at Ynisderw House, Pontardawe, continued to serve a very useful purpose. The two hospitals within the area, namely Clydach and Gellynudd, continue to be administered by the Glangtawe Hospital Management Committee. The Chest Clinic maintained at Ynisderw House by the Hospital Management Committee also continued in operation.

Close and harmonious co-operation is a feature of the relationship between Officers of your Council and Officers of the other Authorities mentioned on all occasions when matters affecting our joint responsibilities require attention.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

No action became necessary during the year under the Act with regard to the burial of unclaimed dead.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water.

The main source of the District's water supply for many years has been the Cray Reservoir of the Swansea Corporation, the water being purchased by agreement. Additional supplies in augmentation of this main source are obtained from the Council's own tanks and springs which are situated in various parts of the area and are maintained by your Engineering and Water Department.

- (1) The water supplied from all sources is adequate in quantity and generally satisfactory as to quality.
- (2) Results of chemical analysis and bacteriological examination indicate that the supplies are of the nature required for human consumption.
- (3) There was no evidence of contamination by lead in any of the samples analysed.
- (4) There is no stand-pipe system in the District as with few exceptions most of the buildings in the area are connected to the main supplies.

Pollution of Rivers and Streams.

Satisfactory co-operation continues between your Officers and Officers of the South West Wales Rivers Board in all matters affecting their various responsibilities in this connection.

Disinfestation.

(a) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Number of (1) Council Houses	(i) Infested	8
	(ii) Disinfested	8
Number of (2) Other Houses	(i) Infested	7
	(ii) Disinfested	7

(b) Methods Employed in Disinfesting Houses

The problem of insect resistance referred to again this year in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector has necessitated various insecticides being used in turn in order to ensure that no resistance strains are built up in the area. The general methods employed are those of powder, direct liquid application and smokes and no case of resistance to these methods has so far been detected.

Sewage and Sewage Effluent

The report of 1956 made reference to the departments concerned over the standard of effluent being discharged from the overloaded and out-dated treatment works. The proposed trunk

sewer at present in the survey and planning stage will be submitted in due course to the appropriate Ministry and it is hoped that this or some alternative scheme will soon be approved as the concern expressed in previous reports is again reiterated.

Development of Sewerage Schemes

Craigcefnparc Privy Conversion Scheme	£11,000	In progress
Gellynudd Privy Conversion Scheme	£2,901	Completed

SECTION D.—HOUSING

The reason for the existence of local authorities is the amelioration and elimination of bad social conditions. Nowhere is this task more important nor the results more rewarding than in the field of housing. Details of the action taken during the year in respect of slum clearance and housing repairs will be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector. These statistics, however, cannot attempt to show nor can words even fully describe the increase in health potential and human happiness resulting from this activity.

The relationship between bad housing and illhealth or conversely between good housing and good health are accepted facts but it is only when one has in the course of normal duty to visit families living in overcrowded and insanitary conditions does the full picture become apparent. The record of this Authority in the field of housing during the interwar years is worth recalling. This record has been maintained in the post 1946 period as the accompanying table indicates. The Authority has recognized the need of every family for a house of its own; for a house that is soundly constructed and free from insanitary conditions; a house provided with the facilities that have become the accepted standards of this day and age, and a house sufficiently large for the privacy of the individuals living in it to be capable of attainment. The Council has not only recognized these facts but has done its utmost to see that these matters are achieved within the limits imposed by the building resources of the area.

The battle for good housing conditions is one that never ends for as fast as new houses are built new families come into being and old houses decay to the point when demolition is the only possible action. There is nothing wrong in fighting a battle that never ends for victories are achieved from day to day, from year to year, and the benefits seen from generation to generation. It would only be wrong to cease fighting the battle and on its past performance this Council will never be guilty of that fault.

ANALYSIS OF APPLICANTS REHOUSED. SUMMARY. YEAR: 1957

Parish or Ward	Rehoused Under the Points Scheme										Rehoused Outside the Points Scheme (Keyworkers etc.)	Type of Accommodation Provided			Notes	Transfers & Sub-Tenancies			Total Number of Families Prov. with Alt. Accom. (Pts. Scheme, Other Cases, Trans- fers, Sub- Tenancies.)
	Occupation				Applicants who were granted Pri- ority on grounds of				Living in Apts.	New Houses		Casual Vacancies	Other Accom- modation	No. of Transfers Approved		No. of Sub- Tenancies Authorised	Total Trans- fers & sub- Tenancies		
	Agriculture	Mines	Steel/Tin	Others	Total Families Re- housed under Points Scheme	Tuber- culosis	Disab- le	Other Illness		Unfit Houses									
Clydach	—	2	8	19	29	(1)	3	—	18	6	21	(2)	23	6	—	28	24	(3)	(1) + (2) + (3)
Gellionen	—	—	—	5	5		3	—	—	5	4	—	—	—	—	3	4	7	12
Craigcynparc	—	6	—	2	8		—	—	3	—	6	—	8	—	—	—	6	6	14
Garnswilt/ Velindre	—	1	—	1	2		2	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	1	2	3	5
Ynysymond	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cilybebyll	1	—	—	1	2		1	—	1	3	1	1	—	—	—	3	5	8	11
Blaenegel & Mawr	—	5	2	14	21		—	—	11	5	10	2	17	5	1*	4	8	12	35
Godregraig	—	4	1	1	6		1	—	3	—	4	—	6	—	—	2	12	14	20
Alltygrug	—	2	—	2	4		—	—	3	4	2	—	—	4	—	4	15	19	23
Cwmllynfell	—	—	—	1	1		—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	7	9	10
Caegurwen	—	7	—	1	8		—	—	5	8	6	—	—	8	—	1	9	10	18
TOTALS	1	27	11	47	86		10	—	44	34	55	4	55	34	1	48	92	140	230
Add Previous Years	4	470	161	562	1,197		134	22	317	245	855	50	991	245	11	427	647	1,074	2,321
Total 1946/1957	5	497	172	609	1,283		144	22	361	279	910	54	1,046	279	12	475	739	1,214	2,551

ANALYSIS OF APPLICANTS REHOUSED. SUMMARY FOR THE YEARS 1946-1957

Parish or Ward	Rehoused Under the Points Scheme										Rehoused Outside the Points Scheme (Keyworkers etc.)	Type of Accom- modation Provided				Transfers & Sub-Tenancies			Total Number of Families Prov. with Alt. Accom. (Pts. Scheme, Other Cases, Trans- fers, Sub- Tenancies.)
	Occupation				Total Families Rehoused under Points Scheme	Applicants who were granted Pri- ority on grounds of:				New Houses		Casual Vacancies	Other Accom- modation	No. of Transfers Approved	No. of Sub- Tenancies Authorised	Total Trans- fers & sub- Tenancies			
	Agriculture	Mines	Steel/Tin	Others		Tuber- culosis	Disab- lement	Other Illness	Unit Houses								Living in Apts.		
Clydach	—	99	41	175	(1) 315	25	8	93	19	265	(2) 3	252	62	4	191	123	(3) 314	(1) + (2) + (3) 632	
Gellionen	—	8	24	36	68	18	—	11	12	39	1	43	23	3	27	40	67	136	
Craigcennin	—	18	—	16	34	—	—	8	1	24	—	28	6	—	12	15	27	61	
Garnswllt/ Velindre	—	31	—	13	44	5	—	9	4	29	—	34	10	—	2	12	14	58	
Ynisymond	2	7	1	6	16	—	—	6	2	9	2	13	5	—	2	8	10	28	
Clybebyll	2	26	32	70	130	18	6	40	22	87	25	123	32	—	28	51	79	234	
Blaenogel & Mawr	1	38	48	98	185	24	1	65	21	133	16	167	31	3	58	103	161	362	
Godregraig	—	51	12	39	102	13	3	19	29	61	1	92	11	—	27	91	118	221	
Alltygrug	—	67	8	61	136	17	2	39	28	84	2	92	44	2	69	156	225	363	
Cwmlllynfell	—	44	—	37	81	7	—	12	23	39	—	64	17	—	11	48	59	140	
Caegurwen	—	108	6	58	172	17	2	59	14	140	4	138	38	—	48	92	140	316	
Total to 31/12/57	5	497	172	609	1,283	144	22	361	175	910	54	1,046	279	12	475	739	1,214	2,551	

ANALYSIS OF WAITING LIST — 31st DECEMBER, 1957

Parish or Ward	Number of Applicants	EMPLOYMENT				Living in Apartments	Type of House Required			
		Agriculture	Mines	Tin Steel	Other		1 Br.	2 Br.	3 Br.	4 Br.
Clydach	129	1	22	16	90	81	40	72	17	—
Gellionen	62	—	9	12	41	30	18	31	12	1
Craigcefnparc	19	—	8	1	10	10	9	8	2	—
Garnswllt/ Velindre	17	—	9	—	8	7	9	5	3	—
Ynisymond	13	1	4	2	6	3	4	7	2	—
Cilybebyll	90	1	12	26	51	36	28	49	13	—
Blaenegel & Mawr	119	2	24	16	77	61	39	68	10	2
Godrergrraig	46	—	22	1	23	20	11	27	8	—
Alltygrug	89	—	38	4	47	46	32	45	12	—
Cwmllynfell	23	—	13	—	10	11	11	10	2	—
Caegurwen	90	1	45	3	41	57	29	41	18	2
TOTAL	697	6	206	81	404	362	230	363	99	5

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUMMARY OF REGISTRATIONS UNDER THE MILK REGULATIONS

<i>Purpose for which Registered</i>	<i>Parish of</i>					<i>Sources from Outside Area</i>	<i>Total Registered</i>
	<i>Rhyn- dwy- clydach</i>	<i>Llan- quicke</i>	<i>Cily- bebyll</i>	<i>Ynisy- mond</i>	<i>Mawr</i>		
Distributors	4	11	2	2	2	6	27
Dairies	3	8	1	1	1	—	14
Dealers Tuberculin Tested Milk	2	2	2	—	—	—	6
Dealers-Pasteurised Milk	2	10	2	1	2	—	17
Dealers-Sterilised Milk	2	7	2	—	1	—	12
Supplementary Licences-All Milks	—	—	—	—	—	6	6
Total Registrations	13	38	9	4	6	12	82

Milk Supply

The supervision of milk distribution after it has left its place of production is the duty of this Authority. In consequence, milk distributors and their premises are registered and both dealers and supplementary dealers in designated milks are licensed.

The Inspectors supervise milk handlers and in this way achieve control in matters affecting cleanliness as regards this most important food.

Milk Samples

The results of examinations of samples taken during the year for bacteriological and biological purposes are as follows. These were dealt with at the Swansea Public Health Laboratory.

<i>Laboratory</i>	<i>No. Taken</i>	<i>No. Satis- factory</i>	<i>No. Unsatis- factory</i>	<i>% Satis- factory</i>
Public Health Laboratory, Swansea				
Bacteriological Examination	71	11	—	100%
Biological Examination	3	3	—	100%

Icecream.

SUMMARY OF REGISTRATIONS

(FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955, SECTION 16)

<i>Purposes for which Registered</i>	<i>PARISH OR WARD</i>										<i>Total Regis- tered</i>
	<i>Clyd.</i>	<i>Gell.</i>	<i>Mawr</i>	<i>Ynis.</i>	<i>Cil.</i>	<i>B.&M.</i>	<i>God.</i>	<i>Allt.</i>	<i>Cwm.</i>	<i>Cae.</i>	
Manufacture and Sale :											
(i) Complete Cold Mix	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	1	5
(ii) Hot Mix	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	5
Sale :											
(i) Prepacked	16	6	5	—	4	11	5	14	2	9	72
(ii) Loose	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Registered	16	6	5	—	4	13	7	16	3	12	82

Icecream Samples

The results of analysis of samples taken during the year and sent to the laboratory at Swansea are as follows :

<i>Laboratory</i>	<i>No. Taken</i>	<i>No Satis- factory</i>	<i>No. Unsatis- factory</i>	<i>Satis- factory %</i>
Public Health Laboratory, Swansea				
Bacteriological Examination	3	2	1	66%

Other samples submitted could not be examined due to unsatisfactory temperature conditions.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed	1,478	388	895	22,154	1,897
Number Inspected	1,478	388	895	22,154	1,897
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis Whole Carcasses Condemned	Nil	1	1	2	Nil
Carcasses of which Some Part or Organ was condemned	444	238	9	6,881	558
Percentage of the Number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticosis	30.05%	61.3%	1%	31.06%	29.4%
Tuberculosis Only Whole Carcasses Condemned	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which Some Part or Organ was condemned	18	2	Nil	Nil	30
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	1.21%	0.5%	0.1%	Nil	1.58%
Cysticercosis					
5 cases were found during the year					

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The following are details of samples taken by the County Sampling Officers in the Pontardawe Rural District during the year ended 31st December, 1957. Once again we wish to express our thanks to the County Medical Officer of Health for this information.

Angelica	1	Marmalade	2
Aspirin tablets	1	Oatcakes	1
Baking Powder	6	Olive Oil	1
Butter	11	Pickle	1
Bicarbonate of Soda	3	Peas	1
Celery (canned)	1	Pepper	3
Custard Powder	2	Peanut butter	1
Cream of tartar	1	Pudding mixture	6
Curry powder	1	Pearl Barley	3
Cheese Spread	1	Pudding (canned)	3
Cream	10	Rice	6
Chicken (minced)	1	Sauce	1
Cochineal	1	Spaghetti (canned)	1
Dessicated Coconut	5	Sweets	3
Fruit Juice	3	Salt petre	1
Fruit (canned)	4	Shredded beef suet	1
G. R. powder	3	Stuffing	2
Gravy granules	3	Salad Cream	1
Glace cherries	1	Sultanas	4
Ground Almonds	1	Salt	2
Health Salts	6	Semolina	3
Horse radish cream	1	Salmon (potted)	2
Honey	1	Soda Water	3
Ice Cream	11	Soft drink	7
Lard	2	Soup (canned)	6
Lemon Curd	2	Tea	2
Meat paste	2	Table Jelly	1
Molasses	1	Veev	1
Mustard	1	Vinegar	5
Milk	164	Vegetables (canned)	5
Mincemeat	1	Whipping Compound	1
Margarine	2	Meat products (canned)	7
Macaroni	1		
		TOTAL	342

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR EACH MONTH, 1957

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	3	—	—	1	—	8
Cerebro—Spinal Fever	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia	—	—	1	2	—	2	—	—	5	2	—	—	12
Measles	—	—	—	—	1	15	7	5	1	—	—	6	35
Whooping Cough	11	9	25	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	49
Erysipelas	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
TOTALS	11	9	28	3	5	20	8	8	7	2	1	7	109

**PARTICULARS OF INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS DURING
THE YEAR, 1957**

Disease	Total	WARD OR PARISH									
		Clydach	Gelli-onen	Mawr	Ynisymond	Cilybebyll	R. & M.	Godrer-graig	Allt-y-grug	Cwmllynfell	Gwauncaegurwen
Scarlet Fever	8	2	2	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Cerebro—Spinal Fever	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia	12	3	1	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	—
Measles	35	3	5	2	2	4	19	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	49	19	3	4	—	12	7	—	—	—	4
Erysipelas	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS	109	28	11	8	2	21	32	1	—	2	4

CANCER DEATHS, 1957

Total	Site	Sex	AGE GROUPS					WARD OR PARISH										
			5—14	25—44	45—64	65—74	75 +	Clydach	Gellionen	Craigcefn- parc	Garnswyllt/ Velindre	Ynisymond	Cilybebyll	Blaenege & Mawr	Godrer- graig	Alltygrug	Cwmllyn- fell	Caerurwen
5	Lung	M F	— —	— —	1	3	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
5	Bronchus	M F	— —	— —	2	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
1	Nose	M F	— —	— —	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	Larynx	M F	— —	— —	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	Parotid	M F	— —	— —	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	Mouth	M F	— —	— —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
1	Tonsil	M F	— —	— —	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	Oesophagus	M F	— —	— —	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
6	Stomach	M F	— —	— —	1	3	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	1
4			— —	— —	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
2	Pancreas	M F	— —	— —	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—

[illegible]

CANCER DEATHS—LUNG AND BRONCHUS 1947—1957

Year	Sex	Total	Clydach	Pontardawe	Ystalyfera	Gwauncae- gurwen
1947	{M	6	6	—	—	—
	{F	1	1	—	—	—
1948	{M	9	3	1	2	3
	{F	1	1	—	—	—
1949	{M	12	8	3	—	1
	{F	—	—	—	—	—
1950	{M	9	3	2	1	3
	{F	—	—	—	—	—
1951	{M	7	5	1	1	—
	{F	—	—	—	—	—
1952	{M	12	9	2	—	1
	{F	—	—	—	—	—
1953	{M	21	14	3	3	1
	{F	1	1	—	—	—
1954	{M	2	1	—	—	1
	{F	3	—	1	—	2
1955	{M	16	4	4	6	2
	{F	1	—	—	1	—
1956	{M	17	8	3	4	2
	{F	—	—	—	—	—
1957	{M	10	4	3	1	2
	{F	—	—	—	—	—

LIST OF SCARLET FEVER CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1957

Age Groups	Total	Sex	WARD OR PARISH					
			Clydach	Gelli- onon	Mawr	Cily- bebyll	Blaen- egcl & Mawr	Godre- 'rgraig
Under 5 years	2	M	—	2	—	—	—	—
	2	F	1	—	—	—	—	1
5—10 years	2	M	—	—	1	—	1	—
	2	F	1	—	—	1	—	—
TOTALS	8		2	2	1	1	1	1

Males — 4
Females — 4

CANCER DEATHS 1946—1957

Year	Sex	Total	Clydach	Pontardawe	Ystalyfera	Gwaun- caegurwen
1946	M	33	12	4	12	5
	F	25	5	8	6	6
1947	M	28	15	6	4	3
	F	27	7	9	4	7
1948	M	42	10	9	7	16
	F	20	3	9	5	3
1949	M	40	11	18	5	6
	F	24	4	7	2	11
1950	M	33	10	8	6	9
	F	23	8	5	4	6
1951	M	40	21	8	6	5
	F	22	6	5	4	7
1952	M	35	14	10	8	3
	F	31	10	6	10	5
1953	M	47	25	8	9	5
	F	28	8	8	6	6
1954	M	25	11	6	4	4
	F	23	5	13	1	4
1955	M	43	10	15	11	7
	F	30	5	9	9	7
1956	M	46	21	10	9	6
	F	35	10	10	6	9
1957	M	41	13	11	10	7
	F	26	7	5	6	8

TUBERCULOSIS

AGES	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— 1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 4 Years	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14 Years	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24 Years	1	9	1	1	—	—	—	1
25—34 Years	2	2	1	—	—	1	—	—
35—44 Years	4	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
45—54 Years	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—64 Years	2	2	—	1	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	1
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	13	16	3	2	5	2	—	2

Rate of Incidence of New Cases : 1.06 per 1,000 population

Death Rate from this Disease : 0.28 per 1,000 population

NUMBER OF CASES ON TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE YEAR, 1957

Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Respiratory and Non-Respiratory
M	F	Total	M	F	Total	Total
151	149	300	39	40	79	379

Rate of Incidence : 11.8 per 1,000 population.

NUMBER OF CASES ON TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER AT THE END OF THE YEAR, 1957

Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Respiratory and Non-Respiratory
M	F	Total	M	F	Total	Total
148	157	305	36	34	70	375

Rate of Incidence : 11.7 per 1,000 population.

PARTICULARS OF TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS 1947—1957

Year	Pulmonary		Total	Non-Pulmonary		Total	Total Deaths All Forms
	Male	Female		Male	Female		
1947	14	7	21	1	—	1	22
1948	18	10	28	—	1	1	29
1949	17	4	21	1	1	2	23
1950	10	10	20	1	2	3	23
1951	8	8	16	—	1	1	17
1952	13	3	16	—	1	1	17
1953	12	1	13	1	1	2	15
1954	8	2	10	2	—	2	12
1955	7	2	9	—	—	—	9
1956	1	3	4	—	—	—	4
1957	5	2	7	—	2	2	9

RAINFALL IN 1957—WERN HOUSE, YSTALYFERA

Month	Total Depth	Greatest fall in 24 hours		Number of days with .01 or more recorded
	Inches	Date	Inches	
January	9.88	31/1/57	1.97	17
February	7.49	7/2/57	1.54	22
March	8.36	19/3/57	1.46	20
April	.74	17/4/57	.30	7
May	3.47	17/5/57	.98	11
June	1.60	18/6/57	.39	9
July	6.30	25/7/57	.86	23
August	7.25	10/8/57	1.72	18
September	11.13	6/9/57	2.22	23
October	7.68	30/10/57	2.24	17
November	3.85	2/11/57	2.05	7
December	4.94	10/12/57	.95	19
TOTALS	72.69			193

Rain Gauge.

Diameter of Funnel—5 inches.

Height of top—Above ground, 1 foot 6 inches
Above Sea Level, 240 feet.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SHOPS' INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1957

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I submit my Annual Report for the year 1957.

Much of the work of a public health inspector appears to be taken up in routine duties but to deduce from this that the functions have a routine aspect would be incorrect for public health and public health inspection have ever changing faces.

The Report will indicate under headings that recur each year the activities of your inspectorate within the general picture of the public health department. Although the headings recur the activities vary for seldom has the inspector to deal with two identical problems. The raw material of our work is the human being and it is from his activity or lack of it that our problems arise. The work of a public health inspector lies in requiring persons to do things they do not wish to do and to prevent them from doing those things that they are often very much inclined to do. In this sense our task is regulatory, but in the last quarter of a century there has emerged a concept of education and persuasion in achieving these ends. The willing co-operation of the population is being sought rather than its unwilling compliance demanded. The benefits of such a policy are perhaps more long term but are far more lasting and it is with this idea in mind that the various sections of the report should be studied.

The last day of 1956 saw the Clean Air Act come into operation and the report indicates the situation at present existing in the area as well as with the administrative difficulties which are peculiar to this district and others of like industrial development.

The Rent Act received Royal Assent halfway through the year and our first incursion into this complicated problem is recorded together with comments on the functioning of the Act in this area.

The services of Food Hygiene, Meat Inspection, and Refuse Collection have proceeded normally, as indeed such services should, while slum clearance has taken a further step forward. The following pages will convey a picture of a normal year's working and it is hoped that they will be found of interest.

PART I.—GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH.

Inspection for the Year, 1957.

(a)	All types of premises under Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	4,924
(b)	Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	111
(c)	Dairies, Milkshops, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	19
(d)	Factories and Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	90
(e)	Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	97
(f)	Miscellaneous (including Food Stores and Butchers' Shops)	...	...	...	...	...	643
(g)	Inspections under Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1950	...	...	...	...	...	511
(h)	Inspections under Shops Act, 1950	...	...	...	...	...	236
(i)	Inspections of Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	42
(j)	Meat Inspection—see appropriate section of report.						

Public Cleansing.

(a) REFUSE COLLECTION.

(i) Direct Labour Collection.

The basis of your Council's refuse collection system is that of kerbside collection which is to a great extent dictated by the fact that so many of our houses are of terraced type and inaccessible from the rear. The whole collection system is therefore being standardized on this basis and in no instance is there a bin system in operation where the refuse is collected from the rear of the premises by the loader. The kerbside collection system, where barring infirmity, the container is put out by the householder, demands a high frequency and punctuality. The frequency of collection in this area is a daily main road collection and a thrice weekly collection in all other districts.

The high frequency naturally raises the question of cost and it is interesting to note that for the year 1957 your Council is included as one of the selective areas for inclusion in the Ministry of Housing and Local Government's Annual Cleansing Costing Return. Pontardawe Rural District Council was listed as a figure of £401 per 1,000 population which was well below that of the national average, the average for mining districts, and the average for rural areas selected. There were no complaints during the year regarding either non-collection, unpunctuality, or irregularity. Your Council has provided conditions of service for refuse

District No.	ORGANISATION				VEHICLES AND PERSONNEL			
	Area Served	No. of Houses Served	Frequency of Collection	Disposal Points	Make of Vehicle	Type and Body	Date of First Registration	No. of Personnel
1	CLYDACH All Clydach to Mond Works	1,795	Main roads daily, Monday to Friday. Business Premises daily, including Saturday. Other roads 3 times per week	Rhyddwen, Craigcefnparc	Karrier	2/3 ton 7 cu. yard all steel covered body	25/3/56	3
2	ALLTWEN AND CLYDACH Clydach from Mond to Trebanos Bon Marche. Alltwen, Glais.	1,849	Do	Do	Bedford	2/3 ton 7 cu. yard all steel covered body	29/6/50	3
3	PONTARDAWE Bon Marche, Swansea Road, Trebanos, to Pontardawe Cross. Rhydyfro. Ynysmeudwy, up to Jubilee Stores plus Maesycloed, Pendarren. All Pontardawe	1,682	Do	Canalside Tip	Bedford	2/3 ton 7 cu. yard all steel covered body	20/4/48	3
4	YSTALYFERA Cwmtwrch. Godrergrraig, down to Jubilee Stores, plus all side streets.	1,697	Do	Alltygrug	Karrier	2/3 ton 7 cu. yard all steel covered body	8/12/53	3
5	GWAUNCAEGURWEN Whole of the Caegurwen Ward.	1,601	Do	Brynamman Common	Bedford	2/3 ton 7 cu. yard all steel covered body	20/10/46	3
General Replacement	All areas as required during emergencies				Bedford	2/3 ton 5 cu. yard all steel covered body	26/3/46	

collection personnel which stand comparison with any authority and generally speaking this is fully appreciated by the personnel concerned whose willing co-operation under what are sometimes very trying weather conditions is worthy of comment and commendation.

(ii) Refuse Disposal.

The accompanying table indicates the disposal points for refuse. This is effected by controlled tipping but the obtaining of covering material is a difficult task and for this reason hand covering with mechanical assistance on occasion is effected and the tips are well fenced and regularly treated for rat infestations. There were no complaints during the year regarding the method of refuse disposal adopted.

As in previous years animal depredation of tip fences is a matter of concern both from cost of tip maintenance and from the inherent danger to cattle which lies in unboiled foodstuffs that may contain the virus of foot and mouth disease.

During the year refuse disposal was discontinued at Gorsgoch, Brynamman, and a new tip established on the common at Pengorsto. While this new site increases the "haul" it has the advantage of removing the refuse from the centres of population to a distant point. The project concerned consists of filling large holes on the common the sites being securely fenced against cattle while work is proceeding.

The tipping site at Craigcefnparc was extended during 1957 and it is hoped that the local welfare committee will shortly be in a position to proceed with their plans for playing field facilities on this site.

Refuse from the town centre is now collected by a new 7 cubic yard Karrier vehicle which commenced operation on the 1st January. The refuse concerned is disposed of at the canal side tip, Ynysmeudwy, but as this does not materially affect land reclamation it might be advantageous again to consider the acquisition of land at the rear of the fair field and to carry out a reclamation project.

(iii) Contracts.

Contract collections continued at Velindre, Garnswllt, Cwmlllynfell, Rhiwfawr, Cwmcerdinen, and Tynyberllan. These areas constitute but a fraction of the whole district but as they cannot be served by a direct labour collection the present system satisfactorily ensures regular removal of household refuse.

(b) NIGHT SOIL REMOVAL.

Contract collection of night soil is carried out in the two areas below, the number of pails collected annually being also indicated.

Area					No. of Pails Removed during the year 1957
Rhiwfawr	...	...	...	...	2,852
Ynysymond	...	...	...	...	5,174
Total					8,026

Contract collection of night soil is carried out in that portion of Rhiwfawr which could not be included in the post-war sewerage scheme, at Glais, Cilybebyll, and Velindre. The number of houses is small and the areas consist of those where sewerage is either impracticable or financially prohibitive. Collection in all cases is weekly and disposal effected by the contractor.

(c) STREET CLEANSING.

The cleansing of streets is effected by the County Council as a Highway Authority purely for the purpose of rendering them safe for traffic. That authority has for some 15 years received from your Council a contribution in respect of those matters which the sweeper necessarily removes and which are more the concern of this Council as a sanitary authority. The principal content of such matters is litter either thoughtlessly or wilfully cast down on the street by passers-by. The effect of such anti-social acts are most apparent on Sundays following Saturday night crowds in the population centres.

The problem of litter has exercised this Authority's attention over the last few years and a number of litter baskets have been placed up which are regularly emptied by the refuse vehicle attendants. In order to obtain a further support for the measures taken the Glamorgan County Council has been approached regarding the implementation of its byelaw against litter offenders. At the time of writing the Litter Act which has come into being will provide the means of further action against such persons who have offended against it.

Initially, galvanized metal green painted litter baskets were provided but it has been found in practice that the high rainfall in the area tends to cause corrosion and it is intended that future replacements will be of coloured fibre glass material.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

The main functions devolving upon the Council in connection with powered factories are those of means of escape in case of fire, sanitary accommodation, and certification of water supply. During the year every effort has been made to revisit the factories in connection with means of escape in case of fire and in this respect there has been liaison not only with H.M. Inspector of Factories but also with the Fire Protection Officer of the Glamorgan County Fire Service whose advice and expert knowledge on matters of fire protection are indeed appreciated. The question of sanitary accommodation is in the main adequate. Our main supply being available has brought no problem in respect of water consumed at these premises.

As in previous years the supervision of industrial canteens has been effected without incident, matters requiring attention having been readily attended to by the body responsible.

Rodent Destruction.

The accompanying table has indicated the manner in which your Council's Rodent Destruction Service has operated during 1957. After some 15 years of operation during which period the latest scientific methods have been applied there is one inescapable conclusion. It is that in so far as an area is concerned infestations may be kept under control. Individual blocks, buildings and centres of infestations may be freed from rats but as for complete eradication there is certainly no "pied piper" system that would rid us of this pest. The war, therefore, is one of attrition and the aim that of control.

In an area such as ours where industry and agriculture exist side by side, and where further, that industry has a history of over a hundred years with all the warren of culverts that such history implies, control is not an easy matter. The general picture on the whole is, however, in spite of these difficulties satisfactory. The table indicates that the sewers have been treated as required, business premises and industries have been treated on complaint or following survey and general infestations either ascertained both from complaint and inspection have received the required attention.

The advent of the anti-coagulant poisons in the form of warfarin has strengthened the armoury of weapons available against rats and mice both in that the insidiousness of their action makes

RODENT DESTRUCTION, 1957

Ward/Parish	Premises treated, including Refuse Tips, Brooks, River Banks			Sewer Baiting		Combined Figures		
	No. Treated	No. of Baiting Points	No. of Baits Laid	No. of Manholes Treated	No. of Baits Laid	Total Premises and Manholes Treated	Total No. of Baiting Points	Total Baits Laid
Clydach	31	427	1,271	83	249	114	510	1,520
Gellionen	37	520	1,560	49 Joint treatment with Blaenegel & Rhyndwyclydach	147	86	569	1,707
Mawr	6	106	318	—	—	6	106	318
Ynisymond	5	84	252	—	—	5	84	252
Cilybebyll	25	386	1,158	—	—	25	386	1,158
Blaenegel & Mawr	68	902	2,706	91	273	159	993	2,979
Godrergrraig	18	308	924	47	141	65	355	1,065
Alltygrug	52	866	2,598	74	222	126	940	2,820
Cwmlllynfell	10	165	495	—	—	10	165	495
Caegurwen	8	105	315	75	225	83	180	540
TOTALS	260	3,869	11,597	419	1,257	679	4,288	12,854

for more efficient treatment and the fact that the poisons being toxic only to rodents enables them to be used with greater freedom and scope. A recent poisoner, sodium fluoracetate, is considered too toxic for the general types of treatment normally employed in this area and it has not been used.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

It has not been necessary during the year to take any formal action under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Housing—Repair, Overcrowding and Demolition.

(a) Repair.

It has not been necessary during the year to take formal action under the Public Health or Housing Acts for the repair of property all the necessary work having been carried out by informal action under these Acts. The foreword to this report refers to persuasion and education as a means of achieving the ends in the field of public health and this is very apparent where house repairs are concerned. Formal action through the local courts where necessary has made it evident to house owners of tenanted property in the area that the Authority has powers which it is prepared to use. We are fortunate in this respect that most of the properties in the area are owned by people living within the area, and that absentee landlordism is an exception. This enables your Officers to meet the owners personally, very often at the house in question and enables them to obtain repair without having recourse to Court procedures which even when successful leave behind them an insecure foundation for future relationships.

The report of 1956 foreshadowed the coming into operation of the Rent Act. This measure which came into force in July of 1957 will have a material effect upon house repairs. Your Council resolved that the Department should give every assistance both to owners and tenants where questions arose under the Rent Act and both sides being aware of this have sought such assistance. The year under discussion has only seen preliminary activity in that the time allowed for the various stages of the Act's procedures has only brought a few notices to completion by the end of the year. While it may be premature to offer an opinion after six months of working there are indications that the Act will be successful in inducing owners to effect repair while at the same time providing them with a financial means so to do.

(b) Overcrowding.

The rehousing of 76 families in overcrowded circumstances was effected during the year. This figure refers exclusively to the rehousing of families in Council houses for the first time and does not take into account the transference of families from one Council house to a larger one where need of more accommodation has arisen. The reduction in the number of large families is increasingly evident and it is apparent that even when compared with 25 years ago the average number of children per family is less.

(c) Demolition and Closure.

The Housing Act of 1957 came into operation in July of this year. The Act in the main is consolidatory in effect and there is little change in procedure. Formal action under the Act was taken in respect of 20 properties the ward distribution being indicated in the following table :—

<i>Ward</i>	<i>Demolition Order</i>	<i>Undertaking Accepted</i>	<i>Undertakings Cancelled</i>
Cilybebyll	—	—	—
Alltygrug	1	1	—
Rhyndwyclydach	2	3	—
Gellionen	—	—	1
Caegurwen	—	1	1
Blaenegel and Mawr	—	6	2
Cwmllynfell	1	—	—
Ynysymond	—	—	—
Godrergraig	1	2	2
Craigcefnparc	—	2	—
Velindre/Garnswllt	—	—	—
TOTALS	5	15	6

Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year.

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	874
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	2,135
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	48
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	826

Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of formal Notices :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	128
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Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :

(a)	Proceedings under sections of the Housing Act, 1957 :	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
(a)	by Owners	Nil
(b)	by Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	33
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	1
(a)	by Owners	1
(b)	by Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(c)	Proceedings under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	5
(2)	Premises in respect of which Undertakings to repair were accepted	15
(3)	Undertakings cancelled	6
(d)	Proceedings under section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit	Nil
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Housing Act, 1957—Part I.—Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year	56
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	84
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	397
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	37
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	76
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	291
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	Nil

Common Lodging Houses.

One Common Lodging House only remains in the area and this was registered during the year as a satisfactory premises. The occupants are permanent residents and there is little if any casual use.

Land Charges.

A total of 278 land charges inquiries were dealt with departmentally during the year. These were distributed on Ward basis as follows :—

Ynisymond	7	Clydach	54
Cilybebyll	44	Gellionen	24
Blaenegel and Mawr	45	Mawr	17
Alltygrug	33	Godrergraig	12
Caegurwen	33	Cwmllynfell	9

The value of the land charge register in respect of unfit properties becomes evident as slum clearance resumes.

While in most instances such registrable charges as undertakings under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, have been made known to intending purchasers by the owner prior to the search being made, the present procedure ensures that should such matters not be declared by the owner then the intending purchaser will be in possession of the information prior to completing the purchase.

Atmospheric Pollution.

(a) Clean Air Act.

The 1st January saw the Clean Air Act of 1956 come into operation. This statute, the first to deal exclusively with the subject of air pollution, has certain very definite provisions far reaching in their effect upon the general life and ways of living of the population. The Act, a direct outcome of the Beaver Committee Report, follows largely the general recommendations of that important document. It is proposed that the requirements should become effective in two stages, the first at the commencement of 1957, the second on the 1st July of the same year.

The industrial exemptions set out in the Act together with the possibility that industries not at the present moment scheduled for supervision by the Alkali Works Inspectorate may at some future date become their province leaves the immediate task for local authorities mainly that of controlling domestic pollution. This will be mainly effected by means of "smoke control areas" which is the new term for what were previously known as smokeless zones. The new phrase is far more in keeping with reality and gives a clearer indication of the aims and intentions of the measure. It is in this connection that comment must be made concerning the difficulty facing this authority and others of similar industrial background in their endeavour to set up smoke control areas.

The area of this Council is industrialised, two prime industries being coal and steel. Colliery workers have from earliest times received what is now called concessionary coal and it is their inherent right under the wages structure to obtain at concessionary rates coal for domestic use. There is not an area within the rural district which does not contain its quota of coal miners and any area which this Council chooses to delineate as a proposed smoke control area would inevitably contain some miners. Should such an area be declared and approved it would become an offence

under the Act for residents within its boundaries to burn other than the approved fuel in approved appliances. It is not difficult to imagine the situation which would naturally follow the prosecution of a miner for burning coal in his home which according to approved custom he has earned through his labours at the pit.

The solution lies at national level between the National Coal Board and the mining organizations so that an equitable recompense may be afforded a miner who finds his home within a smoke control area. If this is not done then it is no exaggeration to state these sections of the Act will become dead letters for those authorities in mining districts where bituminous coal is supplied.

(b) Air Pollution Results

Your Council has continued during the year to maintain a deposit gauge at the Council Offices and the two sulphur dioxide gauges at Pontardawe and Clydach. The results given hereunder indicate the position not to be unsatisfactory having regard to the industrial nature of the area as well as the local meteorological conditions which mitigate against dispersion of pollutants. Action was taken during the year to abate smoke nuisance caused by locomotive sheds in the ownership of the National Coal Board at Clydach. The nuisance arose from early morning firing of locomotives, the sheds being very near to houses and the local hospital. The matter was brought to the attention of the National Coal Board who co-operated fully by removing the shed to a new building constructed some distance from the centre of the town.

Month	Deposited Matter Tons per sq. mile	Mg. of SO ₂ /day collected by 100 sq.cm. of Batch A PbO ₂ (louvered cover)	
		Council Offices Pontardawe	County Yard Clydach
January	36.78	2.28	1.76
February	18.77	1.36	1.13
March	21.44	1.40	1.37
April	11.13	0.83	0.81
May	12.74	0.62	0.81
June	15.24	0.47	0.53
July	14.94	0.51	0.59
August	15.07	0.35	0.42
September	15.67	0.54	0.72
October	23.11	1.12	1.21
November	10.87	0.96	0.81
December	24.41	1.12	1.03

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(1) Milk.

Supervision of milk supply has been simplified for two reasons. The first welcome step was the designation of this district as one of the specified areas where only designated milks were permitted to be sold. This meant that all milk retailed had to be heat treated or produced from tuberculin tested animals under approved conditions and brought in its train the second step which was the elimination of the small producer retailer and replacing him by a retailer who purchased his designated milk in bulk from the larger dairy. The prohibition on sale of loose milk has eliminated what in the past was a prime danger to health through contamination for all milk in the area is now being bottled. There is, however, no benefit which has not some drawback and the centralization of milk processing is no exception. As with icecream control over the centralized premises is easier but the distribution of the end product is so wide that contamination of the bulk means the involvement of a great number of people. On balance, however, there can be no doubt that the change has been a good one.

There are no treatment premises within the area but excellent relations are maintained with dairies outside the area who supply local retailers. Occasions have arisen during the year when it has been necessary to call the attention of these dairy firms to certain matters and their action has been prompt and their attention immediate. The following are the details of licences issued and registrations made by the Department during this last year under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1949 :

	Total
Sterilised Milk	12
Supplementary Sterilised ...	2
—	14
Tuberculin Tested	6
Supplementary Tuberculin Tested	2
—	8
Pasteurised	17
Supplementary Pasteurised ...	2
—	19
Total ...	41
—	—

Milk Supply

(a)	Number of Inspections made of Dairies and Milk shops during the year	19
(b)	Number of Dairies which were internally reconditioned, new floors and channels in cement concrete, additional windows fixed for improving the lighting ventilation, new stalls and troughs, etc. erected	Nil
(c)	New Dairies erected	1
(d)	Number of Dairies limewashed on internal surfaces of walls, and interior of roofs cleansed as the result of informal action taken	2

Samples of graded milks have been taken and details of these are given in the Medical Officer of Health's Report.

Meat Inspection.

It is pleasing to record that your Officers have been able to maintain 100% inspection of all meat slaughtered within the area at the two Council slaughterhouses at Cwmgors and Ystalyfera, and the two private premises at Clydach and Trebanos.

When the total number of animals inspected during the year is taken into account as well as the distance between points of slaughter it will be evident that this 100% inspection has not been easy to achieve. The distance from stock markets in some cases is such that evening slaughtering is unavoidable. Sunday slaughtering, however, occurs only in exceptional circumstances.

The two premises owned by the Council have been fully maintained during the year and improvements carried out where necessary. In so far as structural improvements are concerned, however the slaughterhouse regulations which are to be made at sometime in the future may necessitate improvements in this direction. It would appear on recent indications that the policy of centralised slaughtering or even moderate concentration which was strongly advocated some five years ago is not today so favoured.

During the year the Government has recognized that certain areas are bearing the burden of meat slaughtering and inspection for districts other than their own and measures introduced have now attempted to equate the balance by making a grant towards the cost of meat inspection over and above that amount of meat which might reasonably supply the needs of the area itself. This has resulted in your Council obtaining a grant of £190 for the year under review.

Animals	No. of Animals Slaughtered & Inspected	Animals affected with disease			
		Organ Involved	Disease	No. of Animals Affected	Weight of Meat Con demned lbs.
Bovines	Total 1,866 Comprising Steers 706 Heifers 772 Cows/Bulls 388	Liver	(a) Distomatosis	261	1,411
			(b) Cirrhosis/ Necrosis	149	1,345
			(c) Telangiectasis	20	290
			(d) Abscesses	181	737
			(e) Hydatid Cysts	23	315
			(d) Melanosis	2	16
			(e) Bacterial Necrosis	6	89
			(f) Tuberculosis	5	74
			(g) Cysticercus Bovis	1	16
		Lungs	(a) Abscesses	74	459
			(b) Congestion	1	6
			(c) Cysticercus Bovis	1	14
			(d) Emphysema	3	44
			(e) Hydatid Cysts	43	575
			(f) Pleurisy	11	124
			(g) Pneumonia	16	168
			(h) Tuberculosis	13	175
		Head and Tongue	(a) Actinobacillosis	11	323
			(b) Actinomycosis	1	30
			(c) Cysticercus Bovis	3	86
			(d) Tuberculosis	4	127
		Tongue	(a) Actinobacillosis	3	16
			(b) Tuberculosis	1	6
		Kidney	(a) Abscesses	4	12
			(b) Atrophy	1	4
			(c) Hydronephrosis	2	28
			(d) Nephritis	1	6
		Spleen	(a) Cysticercus Bovis	1	6
		Heart	(a) Pericarditis	2	10
			(b) C. Bovis	2	8
		Peritoneum	Abscess	1	4
		Pleura	Abscess	2	6
		Stomach	Abscess	1	30
		Mesentery	Tuberculosis	3	18
		Carcase	Bruising	2	430
Calves	895	Liver	Abscesses	1	1
		Lungs	Pneumonia	5	9
		Carcase	Congenital Tuberculosis	3	118
Sheep	Including Ewes, Rams, Lambs 22,154	Liver	(a) Abscesses	1,441	740
			(b) Bacterial Necrosis	2	8
			(c) Distomatosis	14	28
			(d) Cirrhosis/ Necrosis	66	113
			(d) Parasites	4,078	2,526
			(e) Hydatid Cysts	291	643
		Lungs	(a) Abscesses	12	24
			(b) Congestion	62	72
			(c) Hydatid Cysts	218	391
			(d) Parasites	4,308	2,430
			(e) Pleurisy	13	18
			(f) Pneumonia	1,755	1,105
		Heart	(a) Pericarditis	3	3
			(b) Abscesses	1	1

Animals	No. of Animals Slaughtered & Inspected	Animals affected with disease			
		Organ Involved	Disease	No. of Animals Affected	Weight of Meat Condemned lbs.
Sheep continued		Kidney	(a) Abscesses	2	7
			(b) Hydronephrosis	2	4
		Carcase	(a) Abscess	2	5
			(b) Arthritis	8	38
			(c) Atrophy	1	10
			(d) Bruising	1	4
			(e) Dropsy	2	75
Pigs	1,897	Liver	(a) Abscesses	4	8
			(b) Hydatid Cysts	5	16
			(c) Parasites	459	490
		Lungs	(a) Abscesses	2	5
			(b) Congestion	99	189
			(c) Emphysema	15	23
			(d) Parasites	11	12
			(e) Pleurisy	4	11
			(f) Pneumonia	400	599
			(g) Tuberculosis	1	3
		Heart	Pericarditis	12	13
		Head	Tuberculosis	23	199
		Carcase	Abscess	3	43

Total Number of Animals Slaughtered and Inspected : 26,812

Total Weight of Meat Condemned 17,092 lbs.

Meat condemned in slaughterhouses in the area is first coloured before being disposed of through trade channels by the owner.

The appended table gives complete details of the causes for condemnation. As in past years it has been considered of statistical importance to note both amounts and causes of condemnation so that the incidence of the various diseases affecting food animals in this area at least may be known.

Food Hygiene.

(a) Regulations.

The Food Hygiene Regulations to which reference was made in last year's report are fully operative. These measures properly applied can do much to ensure the hygienic handling, transport and storage of food intended for human consumption and thereby greatly reduces the outbreaks of food poisoning that so often occur. The Regulations are in the main a great advance upon those powers which your Officers were previously responsible for implementing but there are still certain ambiguities of phrasing which it is hoped future regulations will clarify. In so far as washing facilities are concerned it might well be argued by a food trader that compliance with the regulations is effected if a bowl and a kettle of hot water with a gas ring are available. There can be no doubt that the intention of the regulation is a fixed wash hand basin of porcelain properly trapped and drained and provided with a constant supply of hot water from a gas or electric geyser or a back boiler of a firegrate. If these latter facilities are provided there is far more likelihood of their being used in the Officers' absence than if only the former are available. New media of communication, television and radio as well as the press generally, and trade journals in particular, have aided greatly in making food traders aware of statutory requirements and the need for compliance.

It has been found in this area that proprietors of food premises are fairly well aware of the requirements and in some cases have taken steps to comply in advance of representations by the Department. The assistance of these media is welcomed for the task of the Officer is made easier when the trader is already aware through national publications that he has to spend money to comply with the regulations.

(b) Education and Food Hygiene.

The foreword to this report indicates the importance that must be attached to persuasion and education in public health generally. This is nowhere more apparent than in the field of food hygiene where the handling of food continuously for eight or more hours per day tends perhaps to induce a familiarity that brings in its

train unhygienic practices through thoughtlessness. To guard against this danger food handlers and the public must be made aware of the fundamental principles underlying food hygiene. For this reason the Department has co-operated in exhibitions and given talks to staffs of food retail organizations. It is hoped that co-operation may be effected with schools at a later date so that these principles may be inculcated in the younger generation. The Department is building up a collection of specimens of food parasites, diseased organs, and insects which attack food. These are found to be useful at lectures and exhibitions.

(c) Number of Food Premises in the Area by Type of Business

The registration of these premises is proceeding but the Department has not been in haste to register believing it to be a sounder policy to withhold registration until all the required work is complete, rather than to effect registration precipitately.

	No. of Shops
Bakers and Pastrycooks (Including all bread and flour confectioners)	13
Butchers (Including Pork Butchers)	51
Coffee, Milk and Snack Bars	16
Confectioners (Sweets and Chocolates)	136
(Including Theatres, Cinemas, Departmental Stores, Newsagents, etc.)	
Fishmongers : Wet	22
Fried	31
Fruiterers & Green grocers (Excluding Stall Holders & Hawkers)	90
Grocers, Tea and Provision Dealers	201
Restaurants & Cafes (Unlicensed)	18

Icecream.

The section of this report dealing with milk supplies made a comparison with the situation that has developed in respect of icecream. The Heat Treatment Regulations made it impracticable for all but the largest retailers to manufacture their own product. Most retailers are now supplied by one of half a dozen nationally known firms whose wrapped product is delivered in hygienic refrigerated vans and stored in equally satisfactory conservators supplied by the firm. The method of handling is satisfactory and the samples taken give no grounds for complaint. The only possible difficulty that might arise is the breakdown of the electricity supply allowing the conservator to rise above the minimum holding temperature. Should this occur the regulations require re-treatment prior to sale.

The past few years have indicated an increase in the number of cold mix processes. The cold mix which is a powdered form of a hot mix which has been treated in accordance with the regulations is supplied as a powder and reconstituted and frozen by the retailer. Cold mix samples taken in the area are satisfactory from a bacteriological aspect.

Frozen Foods.

A feature of post-war years has been a development of the frozen food trade. These foods which cover a wide range and include fish, meat, fruit, cream pastries and general delicatessen are processed in quick freezing temperatures at central factories and retained at low temperature through transport and retail storage until point of sale. A large number of shops within the area particularly grocery premises now retail these foods. The trend is welcomed for two reasons, firstly, in that low temperature at which the food is held inhibits organic growth and secondly, the wrapped nature of the package which serves as a protection. The dangers as in icecream are a breakdown in electricity supply, and the wide dispersion of contaminated food should a batch become affected at the central processing point.

These dangers are, however undissociable from our present mode of life and merely emphasize the precautions that have to be taken. In the field of refrigeration and cold storage reference must be made to the refrigerated display counters which have been installed by a large number of meat and fish retailers particularly in the district. These refrigerated counters are either free standing in the shop itself or built into the shop window. They enable food to be seen by the customer while at the same time maintaining it at a satisfactory low level temperature. The Department has been consulted by the retailers prior to installation and the trend has been encouraged as one which is likely to prevent contamination of food and inhibit the growth of food poisoning organisms. Retailers who have installed these units express satisfaction and it is hoped that their example will be followed.

Unfit Foods.

The following articles of food were inspected and found to be unsound, and surrendered voluntarily for condemnation :

Bacon and Ham	99 lbs.	Milk (Dried)	16 tins
Baking Powders.....	139 tins	Meat Extract	33 jars
Beetroot	19 jars	Mustard	50 jars
Bengers Food	5 tins	Onions (Dried)	10 Packets
Bun Mixture	10 Pkts.	Orange Crystals	76 tins
Bisto	16 Pkts.	Oatcakes	10 pkts.
Cocoa	9 Pkts.	Pastes (assorted)	119 jars
Cooked Ham, meats etc.	396 lbs.	Piccalilli	15 jars
Chocolate spread	17 tins	Pickles	31 jars
Chocolate rolls	6 dozen	Potatoes (Dried)	20 pkts.
Cheese	179 lbs.	Poultry	35 lbs.
Crunchettes	6 tins	Salt	98 pkts.
Currants	1 jar	Sauces	24 Bottles
Custard Powder	28 lbs.	Semolina	20 lbs.
Assorted flavours...	159 bottles	Skimmed Milk (Dried)	42 lbs.
Flour mixtures	54 Pkts.	Soup	603 tins
Fruit	234 tins	Spices	86 pkts.
Gravy Powder	34 Pkts.	Stuffing	53 pkts.
Health Salts	28 tins	Tapioca dessert	14 pkts.
Herbs (Dried)	7 jars	Tapioca	3 lbs.
Junket Powder	24 cartons	Assorted Tins	976
Liquorice Sticks	4 lbs.	Tonic Stout	2 pkts.
Maltettes	144 tubes	Tonic Wine	12 Bottles
Malt Cup	24 tins	Margarine	8½ lbs.
Meat (Fresh)	453 lbs.	Meat	120 tins
Soup (Powder)	36 Pkts.		

Disinfection.

The disinfection plant was operating efficiently during the year and clothing and bedding was returned to householders with as little delay as possible.

Particular attention is paid to disinfection of premises following removal to hospital, or death. Bed and immediate personal clothing is removed for disinfection while the room or rooms considered infective are treated with a suitable disinfectant in atomised form.

1. Number of investigations made of Notified Infectious Disease cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	111
2. Number of premises fumigated or otherwise disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
3. Number of cases where clothes were steam disinfected							8
4. Number of cases where bedding was destroyed after Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Householders were provided with disinfectant and disinfecting soap, precautionary measures for prevention of spread of infection being fully explained. Special attention was paid to those cases nursed at home. Children of school age were excluded for the appropriate time, where necessary.

Disinfestation.

The problem of insect pests is year by year attaining increased importance both nationally and internationally. These pests in some cases carry disease and in others take their toll of man's goods and foodstuffs. With the advent of the post-war insecticides such as D.D.T. it was thought that eradication or at least efficient control was now within the grasp of health authorities. Nature, however, has had the last word. Reports indicate a resistance to these insecticides by a number of species from almost every country in the world. The net effect is twofold. It induces a sense of false security by relying upon insecticides that are ineffective while at the same time the cost of ineffective insecticides mounts.

Particular attention has been paid to this problem during the last year and tests carried out to determine whether resistance is present. As soon as it appears that the expected eradication of an infestation has not come about or if this is even suspected then the insecticide is changed for one of another group. Every care is taken that insecticides of a toxic nature or insecticides in concentrations toxic to man are not used.

The main infestations dealt with during the year have been those of flies, cockroaches and ants, and the Department's services are much in demand in late summer when ant colonies disperse.

Departmental Distribution of Disinfectants and Insecticides.

Disinfectant (Liquid)	...	...	...	84 tins
Disinfectant Soap	...	...	...	56 lbs.

PART II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE SHOPS ACT, 1950

In accordance with the Agreement between this Authority and the Glamorgan County Council, the Report annually required is herewith submitted on the administration of the Shops Act, 1950.

1.—Early Closing.

The early closing day varies in the district by reason of traders having exercised their legal right of opting for the alternative day. The exercise of the above right has resulted in a variation of day within the same township. The community, however, appears to be well served. Particular attention has been paid to ensure that premises open for the sale of exempted goods do not sell articles not included in the Schedule.

2.—Closing Hours.

Shops within the area close according to the times set out in the Act.

The hours of closing permitted by the Shops Act, 1950, operate within the area, the local Closing Order of 1915 being invalid, due to incompatibility with the above Act.

3.—Sunday Trading.

It has been noted that small shops, particularly those where mixed sale exists and where there are housing estates near are sometimes tempted to infringe the Sunday Trading Provisions of the Act. Visits are now being made on Sunday to various parts of the area in order to ensure that statutory provisions are complied with. The Sunday Trading Schedule of the Act is not a matter of general knowledge and consideration is being given to supplying traders and chambers of trade with copies so that the elements of Sunday trading are clearly understood.

4.—Employment of Young Persons.

The provisions of the Shops Act, 1950, and the Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938, are generally observed within the area. The hours of work of these young persons and the conditions of their employment are duly investigated during routine inspections.

No matters affecting young persons and requiring action under the above Act arose during the year. Liaison with the Youth Employment Bureau has proved of much assistance in the administration of these provisions.

5.—Authorised Officers.

Your Chief Public Health Inspector and first Additional Public Health Inspector are Authorised Officers under the above Act.

6.—General Observations on the Year's Work.

During 1957, 236 inspections were made for matters falling within the Shops Act, 1950.

In order to ensure that the hours of closing and the provisions of Sunday trading are being adhered to, visits necessarily have to be made during the evenings and numerous such surveys have been made during the course of the year and in general it is felt that the provisions of the Act are being respected.

IEUAN LEWIS,

Chief Public Health Inspector
and Shops Inspector.

